



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67303

Tomoki TAKAHASHI, et al.

Allowed: April 23, 2003

Appln. No.: 09/993,623

Group Art Unit: 2834

Confirmation No.: 8239

Examiner: Hanh N. Nguyen

Filed: November 27, 2001

For: ALTERNATOR

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

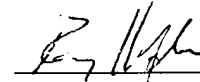
Applicants offer the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability (Paper No. 4) dated April 23, 2003. The reasons for allowance do not reflect the fact that the application includes two independent formulations of the invention. For example, independent claim 1 does not recite that "the air flow passing through the cooling plate takes a circuitous route toward the brushes to cool them off," "a brush holding assembly which the shaft passes through," and "said cover covering a connection portion connecting holding assembly terminals of said brush holding assembly and brush terminals." Furthermore, independent claim 9 does not recite "one of said cap and said case including means for obstructing an air passage between the ventilation

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opening of the case and said open portion to prevent an air flow from passing through the ventilation opening and directly through said open portion so that the air flow passing through the cooling plate takes a circuitous route toward the brushes to cool them off." At least in these respects, the statement is deficient because it fails to acknowledge that claims 1 and 9 were allowed for independent reasons. Furthermore, the statement incorrectly paraphrases the limitations of claims 1 and 9.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: June 24, 2003